

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re Application of :  
NEREIDA MARIA MENENDEZ et al. : Group Art Unit 2166  
Serial No. 09/698,491 :  
Filed October 27, 2000 : Examiner: Not Assigned  
SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR : Attorney Docket No. 285277-00015  
COMPLETING A RENTAL :  
AGREEMENT ONLINE :

**REQUEST FOR CORRECTED FILING RECEIPT**

600 Grant Street, 44th Floor  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219  
March 5, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
BOX MISSING PARTS  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Per the attached documents, please change the filing date from October 26,  
2000 to October 27, 2000.

Respectfully submitted,

Kirk D. Houser  
Registration No. 37,357  
Attorney for Applicants

(412) 566-6083



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of :  
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NEREIDA MARIA MENENDEZ et al. : Group Art Unit 2166  
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Serial No. 09/698,491 :   
: Examiner: Not Assigned  
Filed October 27, 2000 :   
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SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR : Attorney Docket No. 285277-00015  
COMPLETING A RENTAL :   
AGREEMENT ONLINE :

**TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

600 Grant Street, 44th Floor  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219  
March 5, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
BOX MISSING PARTS  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Notice To File Missing Parts Of Non-Provisional Application, mailed January 3, 2001, enclosed for filing in the above-captioned application are an original executed Combined Declaration and Power of Attorney, a Transmittal Form, a Fee Transmittal and duplicate copy thereof, and a copy of said Notice.

Also enclosed is a Request for Corrected Filing Receipt and a copy of the original Filing Receipt with the change noted thereon, the original Utility Patent Application Transmittal (PTO/SB/05) and a copy of the Express Mail Receipt.

Respectfully submitted,

Kirk D. Houser  
Registration No. 37,357  
Attorney for Applicants

(412) 566-6083

DATE OF EXPRESS MAIL DEPOSIT: 10/27/2000


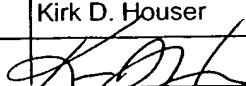
PTO/SB/05 (08-00)

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → ☐

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0032

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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<b>UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL</b>  (Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(b))		Attorney Docket No. 285277-00015	
		First Inventor Nereida Maria Menendez	
		Title	System And Method For Completing A Rental Agreement Online
		Express Mail Label No. EK871378530US	
<b>APPLICATION ELEMENTS</b> See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents.		<b>ADDRESS TO:</b> Assistant Commissioner for Patents Box Patent Application Washington, DC 20231	
<p>1. <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form (e.g., PTO/SB/17) (Submit an original and a duplicate for fee processing)</p> <p>2. <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27.</p> <p>3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specification [Total Pages 45] (preferred arrangement set forth below)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Descriptive title of the invention</li><li>- Cross Reference to Related Applications</li><li>- Statement Regarding Fed sponsored R &amp; D</li><li>- Reference to sequence listing, a table, or a computer program listing appendix</li><li>- Background of the Invention</li><li>- Brief Summary of the Invention</li><li>- Brief Description of the Drawings (if filed)</li><li>- Detailed Description</li><li>- Claim(s)</li><li>- Abstract of the Disclosure</li></ul> <p>4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) (35 U.S.C. 113) [Total Sheets 20]</p> <p>5. Oath or Declaration [Total Pages ]</p> <p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> Newly executed (original or copy)</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> Copy from a prior application (37 CFR 1.63 (d)) (for continuation/divisional with Box 17 completed)</p> <p>i. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>DELETION OF INVENTOR(S)</b> Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s) named in the prior application, see 37 CFR 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b).</p> <p>6. <input type="checkbox"/> Application Data Sheet. See 37 CFR 1.76</p>		<p>7. <input type="checkbox"/> CD-ROM or CD-R in duplicate, large table or Computer Program (Appendix)</p> <p>8. Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission (if applicable, all necessary)</p> <p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> Computer Readable Form (CRF)</p> <p>b. Specification Sequence Listing on:</p> <p>i. <input type="checkbox"/> CD-ROM or CD-R (2 copies); or</p> <p>ii. <input type="checkbox"/> paper</p> <p>c. <input type="checkbox"/> Statements verifying identity of above copies</p> <p><b>ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS</b></p> <p>9. <input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (cover sheet &amp; document(s))</p> <p>10. <input type="checkbox"/> 37 CFR 3.73(b) Statement (when there is an assignee) <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney</p> <p>11. <input type="checkbox"/> English Translation Document (if applicable)</p> <p>12. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449 <input type="checkbox"/> Copies of IDS Citations</p> <p>13. <input type="checkbox"/> Preliminary Amendment</p> <p>14. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503) (Should be specifically itemized)</p> <p>15. <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) (if foreign priority is claimed)</p> <p>16. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: A declaration and fee are not enclosed but will be provided upon request</p>	
<p>17. If a CONTINUING APPLICATION, check appropriate box, and supply the requisite information below and in a preliminary amendment, or in an Application Data Sheet under 37 CFR 1.76:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Continuation <input type="checkbox"/> Divisional <input type="checkbox"/> Continuation-in-part (CIP)</p> <p>Prior application information: Examiner _____ Group / Art Unit: _____</p> <p>of prior application No.: _____</p> <p><b>For CONTINUATION OR DIVISIONAL APPS only:</b> The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which an oath or declaration is supplied under Box 5b, is considered a part of the accompanying continuation or divisional application and is hereby incorporated by reference. The incorporation can only be relied upon when a portion has been inadvertently omitted from the submitted application parts.</p>			
<b>18. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Customer Number or Bar Code Label  or <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correspondence address below			
(Insert Customer No. or Attach bar code label here)			
Name		Kirk D. Houser	
Address		Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC	
City		State	PA
Country		Telephone	412-566-6000
		Fax	412-566-6099
Name (Print/Type)		Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	37,357
Signature 		Date 10/27/00	

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box Patent Application, Washington, DC 20231.



## UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

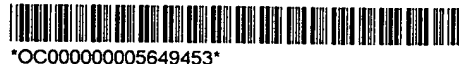
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING DATE	GRP ART UNIT	FIL FEE REC'D	ATTY. DOCKET NO	DRAWINGS	TOT CLAIMS	IND CLAIMS
09/698,491	<del>10/26/2000</del> 10/27/00	2166	0	285277-00015	20	73	8

Kirk D. Houser  
Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC  
600 Grant Street, 44th Floor  
Pittsburgh, PA 15219



## FILING RECEIPT



\*OC000000005649453\*

Date Mailed: 01/03/2001

Receipt is acknowledged of this nonprovisional Patent Application. It will be considered in its order and you will be notified as to the results of the examination. Be sure to provide the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION when inquiring about this application. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please write to the Office of Initial Patent Examination's Customer Service Center. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the PTO processes the reply to the Notice, the PTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections (if appropriate).

## Applicant(s)

Nereida Maria Menendez, Residence Not Provided;

## Continuing Data as Claimed by Applicant

## Foreign Applications

If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted 12/22/2000

## Title

System and method for completing a rental agreement online

## Preliminary Class

705

Data entry by : TEGBARU, HAIMANOT

Team : OIPE

Date: 01/03/2001



**LICENSE FOR FOREIGN FILING UNDER**  
**Title 35, United States Code, Section 184**  
**Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, 5.11 & 5.15**



**GRANTED**

The applicant has been granted a license under 35 U.S.C. 184, if the phrase "IF REQUIRED, FOREIGN FILING LICENSE GRANTED" followed by a date appears on this form. Such licenses are issued in all applications where the conditions for issuance of a license have been met, regardless of whether or not a license may be required as set forth in 37 CFR 5.15. The scope and limitations of this license are set forth in 37 CFR 5.15(a) unless an earlier license has been issued under 37 CFR 5.15(b). The license is subject to revocation upon written notification. The date indicated is the effective date of the license, unless an earlier license of similar scope has been granted under 37 CFR 5.13 or 5.14.

This license is to be retained by the licensee and may be used at any time on or after the effective date thereof unless it is revoked. This license is automatically transferred to any related applications(s) filed under 36 CFR 1.53(d). This license is not retroactive.

The grant of a license does not in any way lessen the responsibility of a licensee for the security of the subject matter as imposed by any Government contract or the provisions of existing laws relating to espionage and the national security or the export of technical data. Licensees should apprise themselves of current regulations especially with respect to certain countries, of other agencies, particularly the Office of Defense Trade Controls, Department of State (with respect to Arms, Munitions and Implements of War (22 CFR 121-128)); the Office of Export Administration, Department of Commerce (15 CFR 370.10 (j)); the Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of Treasury (31 CFR Parts 500+) and the Department of Energy.

**NOT GRANTED**

No license under 35 U.S.C. 184 has been granted at this time, if the phrase "IF REQUIRED, FOREIGN FILING LICENSE GRANTED" DOES NOT appear on this form. Applicant may still petition for a license under 37 CFR 5.12, if a license is desired before the expiration of 6 months from the filing date of the application. If 6 months has lapsed from the filing date of this application and the licensee has not received any indication of a secrecy order under 35 U.S.C. 181, the licensee may foreign file the application pursuant to 37 CFR 5.15 (b).

**PLEASE NOTE the following information about the Filing Receipt:**

- The articles such as "a," "an" and "the" are not included as the first words in the title of an application. They are considered to be unnecessary to the understanding of the title.
- The words "new," "improved," "improvements in" or "relating to" are not included as first words in the title of an application because a patent application, by nature, is a new idea or improvement.
- The title may be truncated if it consists of more than 600 characters (letters and spaces combined).
- The docket number allows a maximum of 25 characters.
- If your application was submitted under 37 CFR 1.10, your filing date should be the "date in" found on the Express Mail label. If there is a discrepancy, you should submit a request for a corrected Filing Receipt along with a copy of the Express Mail label showing the "date in."
- The title is recorded in sentence case.

Any corrections that may need to be done to your Filing Receipt should be directed to:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Office of Initial Patent Examination  
Customer Service Center  
Washington, DC 20231



H/Sector  
\$

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Approved for use through 09/30/2000. OMB 0651-0031  
Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b> <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i>	Application Number	09/698,491	
	Filing Date	October 27, 2000	
	First Named Inventor	Nereida Maria Menendez	
	Group Art Unit	2166	
	Examiner Name	Not Assigned	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	13	Attorney Docket Number	285277-00015

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition Routing Slip (PTO/SB/69) and Accompanying Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Additional Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer	Combined Declaration and Power of Attorney; Request for Corrected Filing Receipt, with Marked-up copy of Original; Transmittal Letter; Return Post Card
<input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Statement	
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application	Remarks	
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Firm or Individual name	Kirk D. Houser, Reg. No. 37,357
Signature	
Date	March 5, 2001

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on this date: 3/5/01	
Typed or printed name	Cathy Roeder
Signature	
Date	March 5, 2001

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20234. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.



PTO/SB/17 (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0032  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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# FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2000

Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$ 2,194.00

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	09/698,491
Filing Date	10/27/00
First Named Inventor	Nereida Maria Menendez
Examiner Name	Not Assigned
Group Art Unit	2166
Attorney Docket No.	285277-00015

**METHOD OF PAYMENT (check one)**

- 1.
- ☒
- The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any overpayments to:

Deposit Account Number: 02-2556  
Deposit Account Name: Eckert Seamans

☒ Charge Any Additional Fee Required Under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

- 2.
- ☐
- Payment Enclosed:

☐ Check ☐ Credit card ☐ Money Order ☐ Other**FEE CALCULATION****1. BASIC FILING FEE**

Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
101 690	201 345	Utility filing fee	710.00
106 310	206 155	Design filing fee	
107 480	207 240	Plant filing fee	
108 690	208 345	Reissue filing fee	
114 150	214 75	Provisional filing fee	

SUBTOTAL (1) (\$ 710.00

**2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES**

Total Claims	Extra Claims	Fee from below	Fee Paid
73	-20** = 53	X 18.00	= 954.00
Independent Claims	8	-3** = 5	X 80.00 = 400.00
Multiple Dependent			

\*\*or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see below

Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description
103 18	203 9	Claims in excess of 20
102 78	202 39	Independent claims in excess of 3
104 260	204 130	Multiple dependent claim, if not paid
109 78	209 39	** Reissue independent claims over original patent
110 18	210 9	** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent

SUBTOTAL (2) (\$ 1,354.00

**FEE CALCULATION (continued)****3. ADDITIONAL FEES**

Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
105 130	205 65	Surcharge - late filing fee or oath	130.00
127 50	227 25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet	
139 130	139 130	Non-English specification	
147 2,520	147 2,520	For filing a request for <i>ex parte</i> reexamination	
112 920*	112 920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	
113 1,840*	113 1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
115 110	215 55	Extension for reply within first month	
116 380	216 190	Extension for reply within second month	
117 870	217 435	Extension for reply within third month	
118 1,360	218 680	Extension for reply within fourth month	
128 1,850	228 925	Extension for reply within fifth month	
119 300	219 150	Notice of Appeal	
120 300	220 150	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	
121 260	221 130	Request for oral hearing	
138 1,510	138 1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
140 110	240 55	Petition to revive - unavoidable	
141 1,210	241 605	Petition to revive - unintentional	
142 1,210	242 605	Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
143 430	243 215	Design issue fee	
144 580	244 290	Plant issue fee	
122 130	122 130	Petitions to the Commissioner	
123 50	123 50	Petitions related to provisional applications	
126 240	126 240	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	
581 40	581 40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	
146 690	246 345	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR § 1.129(a))	
149 690	249 345	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR § 1.129(b))	
179 690	279 345	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)	
169 900	169 900	Request for expedited examination of a design application	

Other fee (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

\* Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid

SUBTOTAL (3) (\$ 130.00

**SUBMITTED BY**

Name (Print/Type) Kirk D. Houser

Registration No. 37,357  
(Attorney/Agent)**Complete (if applicable)**

Telephone (412) 566.6083

Signature

Date 3/5/01

**WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.**

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## UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING/RECEIPT DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER
09/698,491	10/26/2000	Nereida Maria Menendez	285277-00015

Kirk D. Houser  
Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC  
600 Grant Street, 44th Floor  
Pittsburgh, PA 15219



## FORMALITIES LETTER



\*OC000000005649454\*

Date Mailed: 01/03/2001

## NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS OF NONPROVISIONAL APPLICATION

FILED UNDER 37 CFR 1.53(b)

## Filing Date Granted

An application number and filing date have been accorded to this application. The item(s) indicated below, however, are missing. Applicant is given TWO MONTHS from the date of this Notice within which to file all required items and pay any fees required below to avoid abandonment. Extensions of time may be obtained by filing a petition accompanied by the extension fee under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

- The statutory basic filing fee is missing.  
*Applicant must submit \$ 710 to complete the basic filing fee and/or file a small entity statement claiming such status (37 CFR 1.27).*
- Total additional claim fee(s) for this application is \$1354.
  - \$954 for 53 total claims over 20.
  - \$400 for 5 independent claims over 3 .
- The oath or declaration is missing.  
*A properly signed oath or declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.63, identifying the application by the above Application Number and Filing Date, is required.*
- To avoid abandonment, a late filing fee or oath or declaration surcharge as set forth in 37 CFR 1.16(e) of \$130 for a non-small entity, must be submitted with the missing items identified in this letter.
- The balance due by applicant is \$ 2194.

*A copy of this notice **MUST** be returned with the reply.*

Haimanot Tegbaru

Customer Service Center

Initial Patent Examination Division (703) 308-1202

PART 2 - COPY TO BE RETURNED WITH RESPONSE

09698491

022556

63/12/2001 ABUTON 00000159 022556

710.00 CH  
130.00 CH  
954.00 CH  
400.00 CH

01 FC:101  
02 FC:105  
03 FC:103  
04 FC:102